SOIL SCIENCE



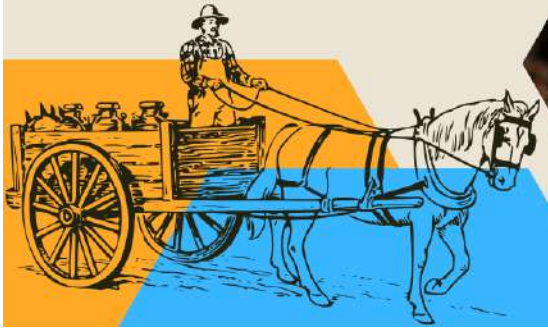
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Explore over 15 lessons on Soil Science, packed with concise notes and MCQs to enhance your preparation efficiency.



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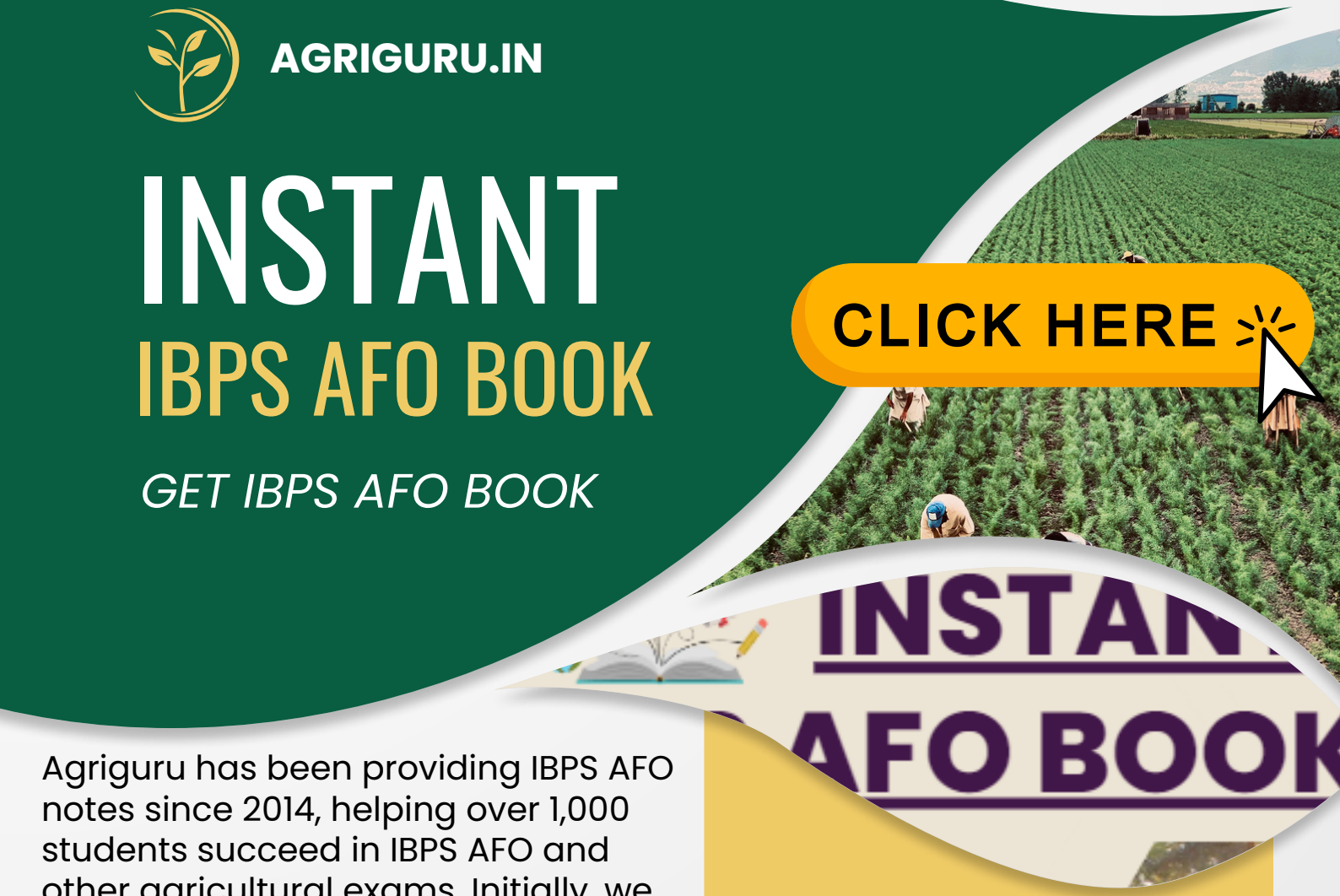


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Classification of Nutrients based on their biochemical behaviour and physiological functions

Group	Nutrient elements	Biochemical Functions
Group I	C, H, O, Ca	**They are basic structural elements.** They are Major constituent of plants (carbohydrates, proteins and fats) and organic matter. These elements are also involved in enzymes process. They provide energy for growth and development by oxidative break down.
Group-II	N, P & S	**Accessory structural elements** of the more active and vital living tissues. Essential component of metabolically active compounds like amino acids, proteins, enzymes and non-proteinaceous compounds. They involve in energy storage (ATP & ADP) and transfer (Phosphate esters).
Group-III	K, Ca, Mg	**Regulators & carriers** for the most part of plant metabolism. They involve in synthesis and translocation of carbohydrates, maintain ionic charge balance and induce enzyme activation.

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Classification of Nutrients based on their biochemical behaviour and physiological functions

Group-IV	**Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, B, Mo, Cl.**	**Catalysts and activators**. These elements Involve in oxidation-reduction reactions, chlorophyll synthesis and also exists in organic combinations.

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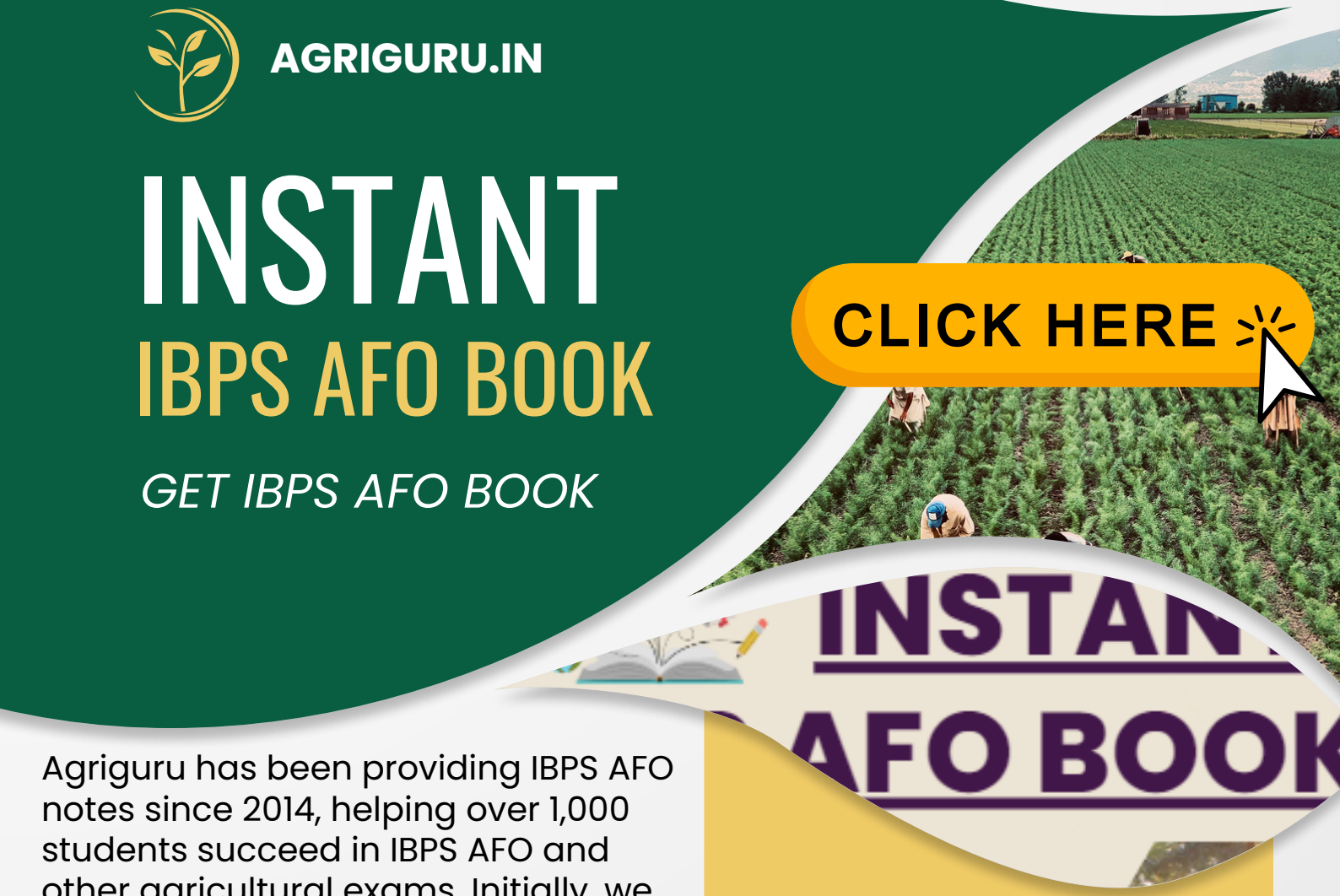
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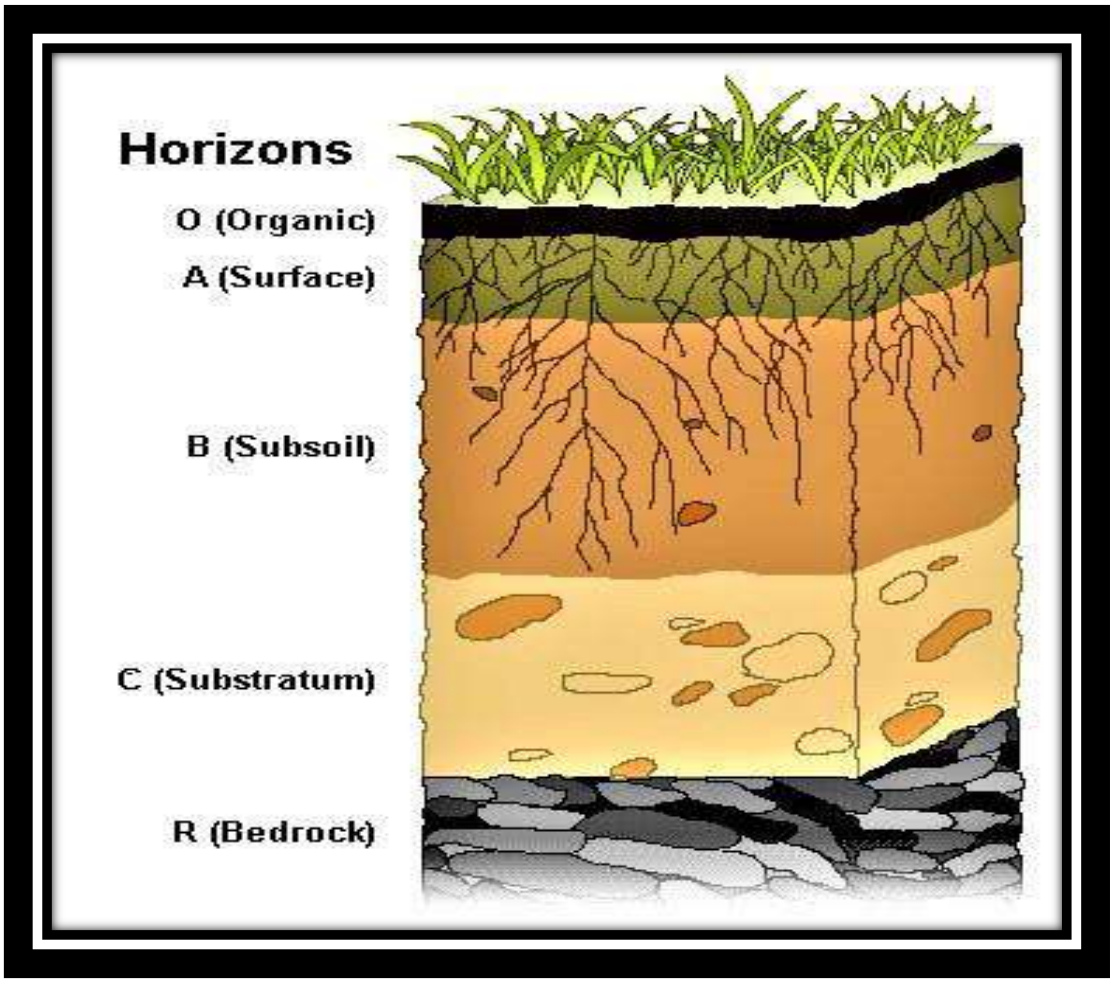
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Soil Profiles



- Soil formation begins first with the breakdown of rock into Regolith. Continued weathering and soil horizon development process leads to the development of a ***soil profile***, the vertical display of soil horizons.

Soil Profiles

'O' Horizon	**➢ At the top of the profile is the 'O' horizon.** **➢ The 'O' horizon is primarily composed of organic matter.**

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Soil Profiles

	➢ Organic horizon is present above mineral soils. ➢ It is generally found in forest areas. ➢ Such 'O' horizon is visible in virgin soil and absent in arable soils.
'A' (Eluvial) horizon (Zone of Eluviation) 'A' horizon having sub horizons: a) Al Horizon: It is uppermost mineral soil horizon rich in organic matter. b) 'E' or 'A2' Horizon: It is Horizon of maximum eluviations of clay, Fe & Al oxides. c) 'AB' or 'EB' horizon: It is Transition horizon between A/E and B (also called A3).	➢ Beneath the 'O' horizon is the 'A' horizon. ➢ The 'A' horizon marks the beginning of the true mineral soil. ➢ The 'A' horizon typically is dark coloured horizon due to the presence organic matter. ➢ Eluviation, the removal of inorganic and organic substances from a horizon by leaching occurs in the 'A' horizon. ➢ Eluviation is driven by the downward movement of soil water. ➢ 'A' (Eluvial) horizons is the top most mineral horizon. ➢ Containing mixtures of organic matter which tends imparts a darker

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Soil Profiles

	colour than that of the lower horizon. ➢ It is zone of washing out/maximum leaching. ➢ Mobilization of nutrients takes place.
'B' (Illuvial) horizon / 'Zone of Illuviation' **(IBPS AFO-2019-20)**	➢ Beneath the 'E' horizon lies the 'B' horizon. ➢ The 'B' horizon is a '*zone of* illuviation' where downward moving, especially fine material, is accumulated. ➢ 'B' (Illuvial) horizon is the zone of washing in or horizon of maximum accumulation (immobilization) of materials such as Fe and Al oxides and silicate clays takes place. ➢ Deposition of $CaCO_3$, $CaSO_4$ and other salts in arid zones. ➢ This horizon some time also referred to as sub soil. ➢ It can't be cultivated by tillage operation.

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Soil Profiles

'C' horizon	➢ **It is unconsolidated material underlying the Solum (A & B) horizon.** ➢ **It is zone of least weathering.** ➢ **Accumulation of Ca, Mg carbonates, and cementation.** ➢ **The C horizon represents the soil parent material, either created in situ or transported into its present location.** ➢ **Beneath the C horizon lies bedrock.**

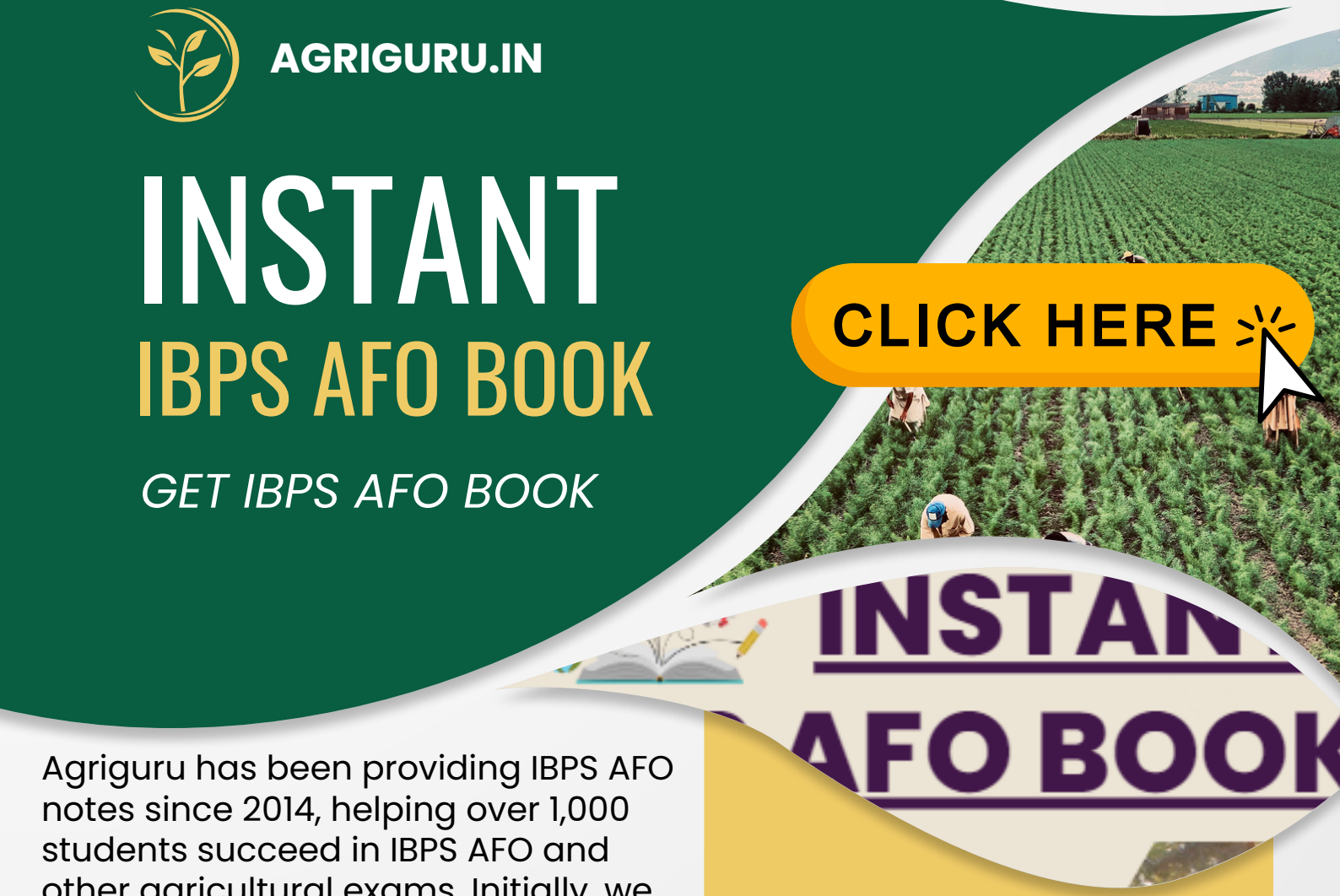
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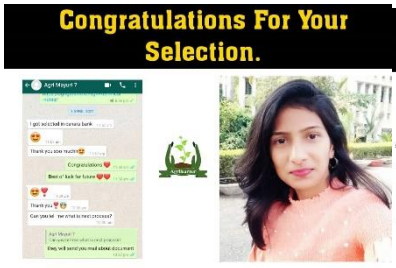
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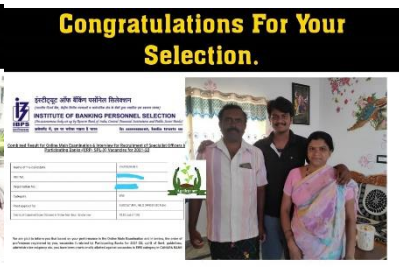
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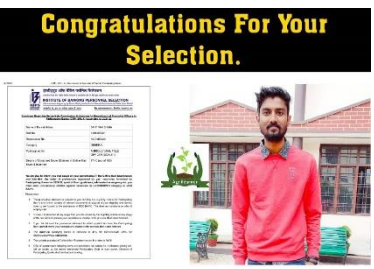
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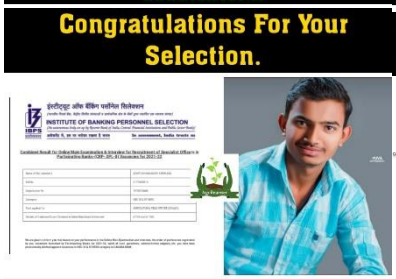
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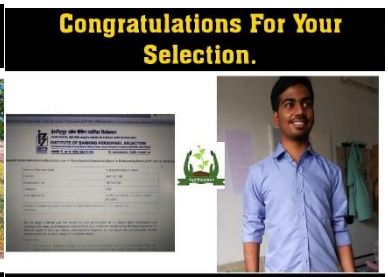






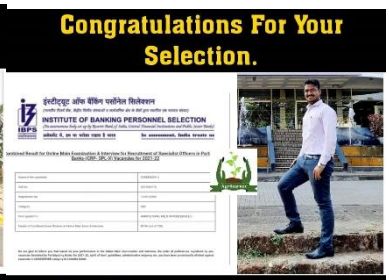


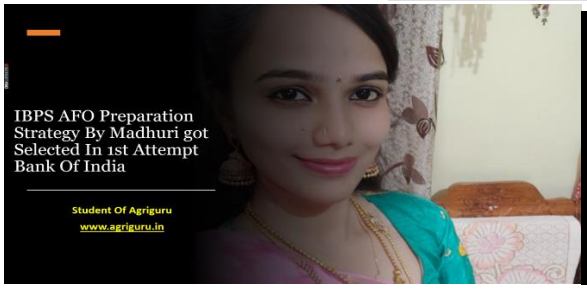


















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